

Leadership and Service
North Muskegon Middle School
1 Term - 2011-212

Teacher: Ms. Sarah Knuth

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Course Objective: The middle school service and leadership class is an elective course where students will learn about what it means to serve and to lead. Students will explore ideas for service in our local, regional, and global communities. Students will be expected to work together to develop leadership skills that they will use in daily life as well as in service opportunities. Volunteerism outside of class time will be encouraged but not required. The goal of the course is to create a spark in each individual student for life-long service and leadership.

Units of Study:

- Common Courtesy and “Being the change that you want to see in the world.” ~Gandhi.
- *The Seven Habits for Highly Effective Teens* by Sean Covey – overview and highlights in the text and from the workbook
- North Muskegon’s Bullying Policy: Understanding and Preventing Bullying
- Project Ideas: Developing a team, coordinating efforts, defining roles/responsibilities, and making the vision happen.

Team Activities:

- Recycling: Student teams will collect recycling in the middle/high school.
- Research: Student teams will report about a service organization using technology.
- Project: Student teams will plan and implement a service project idea.

Individual Responsibilities:

- Notebook: Students should have a notebook for the class to record notes, ideas, thoughts, and reactions.

Films: The following films will be viewed and discussed during the term.

- My Bodyguard (PG, 1980)
- The Long Walk Home (PG, 1990)
- Darfur Now (PG, 2007)

Speakers and/or Field Trips: TBA

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Grading: Grades are determined by the standard North Muskegon grading scale:

A+	100 - 99	C	76 - 73
A	98 - 93	C-	72 - 70
A-	92 - 90	D+	69 - 67
B+	89 - 87	D	66 - 63
B	86 - 83	D-	62 - 60
B-	82 - 80	F	59 - 0
C+	79 - 77		

Categories for Grades:

Participation/Taking Action	40%
Assignment Submissions	20%
Teacher Assessments	20%
Team Assessments	10%
Self Assessments	10%

Classroom Guidelines:

- Be kind to yourself and others.
- Be passionate. Find the spark/fire in your heart.
- Be here, for yourself and others.
- Be aware. Apply what you learn in your life.
- Be open to ideas even if they seem contrary to your own ideas.
- Be patient with yourself and others.
- Be positive and encouraging.
- Be supportive and allow for mistakes.
- Be willing to start over or try again.
- Be yourself and join the community.

Parents, please detach, sign, and return.

Student: _____

My signature indicates that I have read the syllabus for Ms. Knuth's Leadership and Service course.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

My initials grant approval for my daughter/son to view the films listed.

_____ My Bodyguard _____ The Long Walk Home _____ Darfur Now